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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/024,184	12/21/2001	Sachio Tanaka	0717-0487P	4410

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EXAMINER

GIBBS, HEATHER D

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2622

DATE MAILED: 07/01/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/024,184

Applicant(s)

TANAKA ET AL.

Examiner

Heather D. Gibbs

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM
THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 21 December 2001.
2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-9 is/are pending in the application.
4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-9 is/are rejected.
7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 21 December 2001 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date 12/21/01:06/07/04
4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____
5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6) ☐ Other: _____

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

1. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

2. Claims 1-3,7 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Bobry (US 5,595,445).

Regarding claim 1, Bobry teaches An image input apparatus having a scanning surface used for scanning a document , the image input apparatus comprising : an image reading section for reading an image of the document facing the scanning surface (Col 5 Line 56-Col 6 Line18); a position detection section for moving direction and a movement amount apparatus (Col 9 Lines 22-28; Fig 9); and detecting a of the image input a control section for controlling the image reading section and the position detection section so that detection is performed by the position detection section in synchronization with image reading performed by the image reading section (Col 4 Lines 29-45; Fig 2).

For claim 2, Bobry discloses wherein the scanning surface includes a line area extending in a main scanning direction, and a first reference point and a second reference pint each located so as to have a predetermined positional relationship with

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respect to the line area, the image reading section includes a line image sensor for reading the image of the document facing the line area, and the position detection section includes: a first optical position detector for detecting a movement amount of the first reference point in the main scanning direction and a movement amount of the first reference point in a direction perpendicular to the main scanning direction; and a second optical position detector for detecting a movement amount of the second reference point in the main scanning direction and a movement amount of the second reference point in a direction perpendicular to the main scanning direction (Col 7 Lines 9-58; Figs 4-6).

Regarding claim 3, Bobry teaches wherein the first reference point is located on a straight line extending in the main scanning direction from one of two ends of the line area, and the second reference point is located on a straight line extending in the main scanning direction from the other end of the line area (Figs 9-10).

Considering claim 7, Bobry discloses a determination section for determining whether or not there is an unread area of the document; and a notification section for notifying a user of the image input apparatus of the determination result obtained by the determination section (Col 6 Lines 19-53).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

3. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

4. Claims 4-6,8-9 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Bobry '445 in view of Yoshihara et al (US 5,465,163).

For claim 4, Bobry discloses the image input apparatus as discussed above.

Bobry does not disclose expressly an image synthesis section for synthesizing a plurality of images read by the image reading section into one image based on a detection results obtained by the position detection section.

Yoshihara discloses an image synthesis section for synthesizing a plurality of images read by the image reading section into one image based on a detection results obtained by the position detection section (Col 4 Lines 4-17; Col 7 Lines 16-25; Col 8 Lines 30-38).

Bobry & Yoshihara are combinable because they are from the same field of endeavor.

At the time of the invention, it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art to combine Yoshihara with Bobry.

The suggestion/motivation for doing so would have been to synthesize images read from the handheld scanner.

Therefore, it would have been obvious to combine Bobry with Yoshihara to obtain the invention as specified in claim 4.

Considering claim 5, Bobry teaches wherein the image synthesis section calculates a post-movement coordinate value based on a pre-movement coordinate

value and the detection result obtained by the position detection section (Col 6 lines 27-40).

Regarding claim 6, Yoshihara discloses wherein the image reading section reads a plurality of images for one coordinated value, and the image synthesis section performs image synthesis based on the latest image read among the plurality of images read for the one coordinated value (Col 7 Lines 45-67).

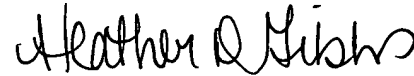
Claims 8-9 are representative of previous claims 1-7 and hence are rejected accordingly.

Conclusion

5. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Heather D. Gibbs whose telephone number is 571-272-7404. The examiner can normally be reached on M-Thu 8AM-7PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Edward L. Coles can be reached on 571-272-7402. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).



Heather D Gibbs
Examiner
Art Unit 2622

hdg



EDWARD J. COLES
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
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